



**new Community
Corporation**

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Social Investment News

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Poverty

1. Most of our realists and sociologists talk about a poor man as if he were an octopus or an alligator.

G.K Chesterton

2. In a terrible crisis there is only one element more helpless than the poor, that is the rich.

Clarence Darrow

3. Poverty does not produce unhappiness: it produces degradation.

George Bernard Shaw

4. The child was diseased at birth, stricken with a hereditary illness that only the most vital men are able to shake off.

I mean poverty – the most deadly and prevalent of all diseases.

Eugene O'Neill

5. Where is the face of God? The answer is simple. That naked one, that lonely one, that unwanted one is my brother and my sister.

Mother Theresa

Mission

To help residents of inner cities improve the quality of their lives to reflect individual God-given dignity and personal achievement.

The Millennium Challenge

...Extreme Poverty and Hunger

In September 2000, the United Nations Development Program issued the Millennium Challenge Goals. The first of the eight goals states – *Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger*. Further, the goal's target for 2015 was to "Halve the proportion of people living on less than a dollar a day and those who suffer hunger."

By their own admission, five years later, the United Nations reported very discouraging results. While the so-called developed countries seem to have the problem under control, others are woefully deficient. Man-made catastrophes like genocide, deadly diseases, mass killings, serious human rights violations, starvation, etc. could wipe out entire populations.

Newark has not suffered those horrors nor a **Katrina**, the horrendous hurricane disaster which has shaken the country and the world. Various forms of relief are pouring into New Orleans, a city whose poorest were struck the hardest.

Newark's poorest, especially among the emigrants, suffer prejudice, inhumane treatment from the US Immigration Department, and the painful feeling of distrust. However, they are quietly grateful for the proverbial scrap.

For several generations Newarkers have been severely "mal-educated" and are "hungry" to be proud of themselves and their families. Many are among the working-poor, an ever-growing group. We need to help them slough off the poverty of hope and the hunger for success.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau the poverty rate rose again last year with 1.1 million more living in poverty in 2004 than a year earlier. Certainly Newark harbors a good number of that increase.

The Gospel challenges us to love our neighbor, our enemies, and the poor. How do we do that?

Senior Resident Fervor

Ethel Williams lives in Roseville Senior Housing. She is a native Newarker with a smile that would warm the coldest individual. At 76 years of age, she has become a professional volunteer. Her services are available wherever there is a need – i.e., School Board Elections, day care facilities, Floor Captain in her building, Brown Bag distribution, Meals-on-Wheels distribution, and for whatever the Care Coordinator's needs demand on any given day.

With the heart and energy of someone half her age, Ethel meets and greets joyously. She is always attentive to her fellow seniors and their concerns. Her enthusiasm alone can raise spirits and lighten hearts. NCC is most fortunate to have a truly joyful person among them.

Social Investment

In their 1986 "Economic Justice For All" pastoral, the U.S. Bishops praised "efforts to develop alternate investment policies, especially those which support enterprises that promote economic development in depressed communities... and help to respond to local and regional needs."

Many thanks to all of you who have chosen to help to "improve the quality of their lives to reflect individual God-given dignity and personal achievement."

Ex.-NCC'S LPN graduates, working in their credentialed capacity, have almost tripled their income - a boon for Newark's economy.

*Jonas Salk likens a conscious evolution to
"a spreading infection, a veritable epidemic of
integrity and responsibility with more and
more people becoming carriers."*

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St. Rose of Lima Summer School Camp



On July 5, 2005, one hundred twenty five children filled the halls of St. Rose of Lima for the Summer Institute and Summer Camp. Both St. Rose students as well as students from neighboring schools and two participants from Georgia and Virginia attended the program.

The **St. Rose Summer Institute** in collaboration with Fairleigh Dickinson University provided programs in reading, written communications, computer, math,

character education and Spanish. Many students received one-on-one instruction in some areas. The Institute operated daily from 9:00 A.M. until noon for four weeks. Instructors were very pleased with the kind of progress that was shown in such a short period of time.

The camp component of the program began daily at noon for the first four weeks and all day once the **Institute** ended. Campers participated in arts and craft classes where they produced (among other things), flowerpots, and picture frames. To combat the hot days of summer, campers often went swimming or played water balloon games. Watermelon-eating contests, basketball and volleyball were also popular activities.

The campers also had the opportunity to go on a number of exciting trips. The Newark Cinema, the golf course, bowling and Kids Camp in Newton, New Jersey were very



enjoyable outings. On August 3, the first annual Olympics Day at South Mountain Reservation was held. St. Rose and New Community Recreation Center entered and won several events.



The camp season came to an end with a Fashion Show on August 12th and a Talent Show on August 17th. Both events allowed the camper and parents to have a good time as well as the show off their God-given talents. Comments from parents and campers attest to the success of this year's program. The smooth operation of the program shows the results that are possible with a group of dedicated, hardworking team players.



Joanne Williams

In 1992, NCC came upon a treasure-trove. She was born and educated through high school in Jersey City. Subsequently, in 1985 Joanne Williams moved to Newark and studied at Hudson County Community College and Jersey City State Teachers College.

From the time she joined NCC in Harmony House for Homeless for two years as a Vista Volunteer, Joanne has been indefatigable in her work with those in need. Except for a few years working as a secretary and Lab Technician, she has been an energetic can do/will do presence at NCC for over a decade.

While working full time, Joanne has never stopped learning. She has certifications as Laboratory Technician Assistant, Literacy Instructor, State Methadone Mentor, Adkins Life Skills Training, and Substance Abuse Counselor. She has taken numerous personal development and enrichment workshops and classes, i.e., Newark Police Department, Citizen/Clergy Police Academy; YSC-Youth Consultation Service – Difficult to Engage Families; Newark Community Orientation; Peoples and Cultures of America – Seton Hall University; United Way Leadership Program; Newark Asset Building Coalition (NABC); Leadership Newark. Joanne also has volunteered in Family Service Bureau, Hospice, Salvation Army, Vista, and Literacy groups.

Joanne worked in the *NCC Gateway to Work Program* as Job Coach where she was responsible for intake, home visits and case assessments. She also monitored client level of participation and progress with developers. Presently, as Senior Support Services Specialist Joanne handles recipients of City, County, and Food Stamp Offices Work First Programs by acting as a liaison between Client, Case Worker/Manager, Multifunctional Outreach Work and referral source.

In addition to working directly with clients in what can be an emotionally charged atmosphere, Joanne supervised the Literacy Program, staff and case manager. She effectively solved varied issues for clients and was liaison between caseworkers, case managers and clients. Diligently and effectively she will identify all the resources available to fill the clients need. Her caring concern and genuine interest help to bolster clients' self-esteem. Joanne has received numerous awards and certificates for doing so much for so long for so many.

Joanne's attitude toward life includes "Let it go. To fret over hurts (real or imagined) or to nurture pet peeves is a waste of time and energy" She would rather enjoy life and people who are real/honest. While Joanne seldom has free time, she does enjoy reading and fun with friends. Her very special skills with people in counseling or in the office or in life generally make her a tremendous asset for her job and for NCC.

Some descriptive terminology from her Director offers further kudos for Joanne – assertive, conscientious, creative, dependable professional, responsible, team-oriented...